

[00047] When the cover 30 is in its raised position, a support plate or lid 50 of lightweight material, such as aluminum is placed on the tray 13, specifically on the wiper element 21 at the front and the top of the rear wall 13 at the back as shown in Fig. 3. The substrate 12, onto which the coating layer is to be applied, is then placed on the plate 50 which prevents the

5 substrate from falling into the coating liquid. The substrate is positioned on the plate 50 such that a free leading end 51 of the ^{plate}substrate extends forwardly of the tray 13 as shown in Fig. 3. The rear or trailing end 52 of the ^{plate}substrate extends rearwardly of the plate 50 as shown in Fig. 3. With the substrate thus positioned on the plate 50, the plate is then removed in a forward direction to leave the substrate resting on the wiper element 20 and the rear wall 16 of the tray

10 as shown in Fig. 4.

[00048] The substrate may be able to be positioned on the tray directly without the lid 50.

[00049] The front end of the substrate is then manually held by the user and handle 39 of the cover is then engaged to bring the cover 30 to its lowered position as shown in Fig. 5 whereupon the lower end 35 of the rigid blade 34 presses the substrate 12 down into the coating liquid 11 as shown in Fig. 5. Concurrently, the coating rod 21 is lowered with the cover to pinch the forward end of the substrate 12 between the coating rod 31 and the wiper element 21 leaving the end 51 of the substrate 12 free at the front of the tray 13.

[00050] By manually pulling the free end 51 of the substrate, the substrate will be pulled through the coating liquid in the tray and slid between the wiper element 21 and the coating rod 31 so that the back surface of the substrate will be wiped clean of coating liquid by the